

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Wolfgang Nieuwkamp
Serial No. 09/869,614

Filed:

Title: MEASURING SYSTEM FOR THE CONTROL
OF RESIDUAL DUST IN SAFETY VACUUM CLEANERS

Group:

Examiner:

**SUBMISSION OF TRANSLATION OF ANNEX TO PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
DELETING MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Enclosed please find the verified translation of the Annex to the International Preliminary Examination Report. Prior to calculating the filing fee, please enter the following amendments to the application.

IN THE CLAIMS

In claim 9, line 2, delete "claims 1-8" and substitute therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 10, line 2, delete "claims 1-9" and substitute therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 11, line 2, delete "claims 1-10" and substitute therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 12, line 2, delete "claims 1-11" and substitute therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 13, line 2, delete "claims 1-12" and substitute therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 16, line 2, delete "claims 1-15" and substitute therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 17, line 2, delete "claims 1-16" and substitute therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 18, line 2, delete "claims 1-17" and substitute therefor --claim 1--.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Hoffman
Registration No. 26,280
Attorney for Applicant

JFH/pmp
BAKER & DANIELS
111 East Wayne Street, Suite 800
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL
SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE AD-
DRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231, ON: Aug. 9, 2001.

JOHN F. HOFFMAN, Registration No. 26,280

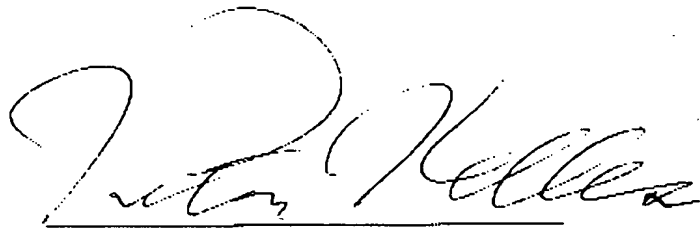
Name of Registered Representative

Signature

August 9, 2001

Date

I, Peter Nelles, do hereby certify that I am an experienced translator, knowledgeable in both the English and German languages, that I have made the attached translation from German to English Patent Application PCT/EP99/09728 as well as amended claims and correspondence relating thereto, and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is a true and complete rendering into English of the original document in German.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Peter Nelles", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline.

Date: July 31, 2001



TRANSLATION

Int'l File PCT/ EP99/09728

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT - ATTACHMENT

For Point V

A substantiated finding according to article 35/(2) with respect to the novelty, the inventive activity and the industrial usefulness; documents and declarations in support of this finding.

The present application fulfills the requirements of article 33 (2)* and (3) PCT, because the object of claims 1-18 is new and inventive.

D1= JP-A-3280925 is regarded as closest-lying state of the art. It discloses a measuring system which through a first electrode charges the dust particles with an electrical charge by contact tension, and with a second measuring electrode measures the charge of the dust particles.

The distinguishing feature of the invention is achieved by only a grid-form measuring electrode. By friction effect the dust particles impinging with neutral polarity on the measuring grid are charged with a certain charge, and correspondingly there is generated on the measuring grid a certain displacement charge that is derived (abgeleitet) and measured.

* - Please note that the first paragraph refers to Article 35/2.

The above-mentioned distinguishing feature is neither known from the present state of the art nor is it suggested by it.

The achieved technical effect is a more efficient and more accurate measuring system. The disadvantages of the measuring system from D1, and namely, in the first place an incomplete charging of the dust particles by the first electrode, and in the second place an adhesion of the charged dust particles to the second measuring electrode, and therewith a loading (zusetzen) of the measuring grid, are solved by the invention.